AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-30 (canceled).

Claim 31 (new): An MN antisense construct comprising an MN antisense oligonucleotide operably linked to an expression control sequence in a vector, wherein said MN antisense oligonucleotide is complementary to SEQ ID NO: 5, and wherein said MN antisense construct shows antisense activity in an in vitro screening assay comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a human cell abnormally expressing MN with said MN antisense construct;

(b) determining the effect of said MN antisense construct on MN expression in said human cell; and

(c) concluding that if MN expression is decreased, that said MN antisense construct shows antisense activity.

Claim 32 (new): The MN antisense construct of Claim 31, wherein said MN antisense nucleotide is complementary to the 5' end of the mRNA that is transcribed from the complement of SEQ ID NO: 5.

Claim 33 (new): The MN antisense construct of Claim 31, wherein said MN antisense nucleotide is complementary to SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 34 (new): The MN antisense construct of Claim 31, wherein said vector is derived from a plasmid, a cosmid, a bacteriophage or a virus.

Claim 35 (new): A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and the MN antisense construct of claim 31, wherein said MN antisense construct interacts with MN gene or MN transcript.

Claim 36 (new): An MN antisense construct comprising an MN antisense double-stranded ribonucleic acid operably linked to an expression control sequence in a vector, wherein said MN antisense double-stranded ribonucleic acid consists of a nucleotide sequence that is complementary to SEQ ID NO: 5, and wherein said MN antisense double-stranded ribonucleic acid shows antisense activity in an in vitro screening assay comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a human cell abnormally expressing MN with said MN antisense double-stranded ribonucleic acid;

(b) determining the effect of said MN antisense double-stranded ribonucleic acid on MN expression in said human cell; and

(c) concluding that if MN expression is decreased, that said MN antisense double-stranded ribonucleic acid shows antisense activity.

Claim 37 (new): The MN antisense construct of claim 36, wherein said vector is derived from a plasmid, a cosmid, a bacteriophage or a virus.

Claim 38 (new): A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and the MN antisense construct according to claim 36, wherein said MN antisense construct interacts with MN gene or MN transcript.

Claim 39 (new): A method of blocking in vivo expression of the MN gene in a human by administering an MN antisense construct of claim 31.

Claim 40 (new): A method of treating neoplastic disease and/or pre-neoplastic disease in a human, wherein said disease is associated with abnormal MN gene expression, comprising inhibiting the expression of MN gene by administering an MN antisense construct according to claim 31.

Claim 41 (new): An antibody which specifically binds to an MN protein or to an MN polypeptide, wherein said MN protein or MN polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid that comprises a polynucleotide containing at least 29 nucleotides, said nucleic acid being selected from the group consisting of:

(a) SEQ ID NO: 5;

(b) polynucleotides that hybridize under stringent conditions to SEQ ID NO: 5's complement; and

(c) polynucleotides that differ from SEQ ID NO: 5 or from the polynucleotide sequences of (b) due to the degeneracy of the genetic code,

and wherein said antibody is polyclonal.

Claim 42 (new): The antibody of Claim 41 that is conjugated to a toxin.

Claim 43 (new): The antibody of Claim 41 that is conjugated to a chemotherapeutic drug.

Claim 44 (new): An antibody which specifically binds to an MN protein or to an MN polypeptide, wherein said MN protein or MN polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid that comprises a polynucleotide containing at least 29 nucleotides, said nucleic acid being selected from the group consisting of:

(a) SEQ ID NO: 5;

(b) polynucleotides that hybridize under stringent conditions to SEQ ID NO: 5's complement; and

(c) polynucleotides that differ from SEQ ID NO: 5 or from the polynucleotide sequences of (b) due to the degeneracy of the genetic code,

and wherein said antibody is humanized.

Claim 45 (new): The antibody of Claim 44 that is conjugated to a toxin.

Claim 46 (new): The antibody of Claim 44 that is conjugated to a chemotherapeutic drug.